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# SECRETARY ROOT STANDS STRONGLY BY GLOUCESTER.

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**SEC. ROOT'S STAND PLEASING TO GLOUCESTER.**

The telegram received here last evening by President Cunningham of the Board of Trade from Mr. Benjamin A. Smith, who was representing that body at the all-important conference with Secretary Root and Congressman Gardner at Washington, and which is given in full in our news columns, must be accepted as the semi-official utterance of the administration as outlining the position of this government on the provisions of section one of the treaty of 1818.

It is very explicit, there are no loopholes and although the interpretation, which undoubtedly comes from Secretary Root, is at variance with the position of Sir Robert Bon on the matter, yet it agrees with the opinion which has always been held by the New England fishing interest and is very pleasing to Gloucester. It will fill our vessel owners with confidence and give them courage to now go ahead and carry on the fishery on the Treaty Coast, with the knowledge that they have behind them the expressed opinion of the state Department on the matter. It is a matter of vast concern to Gloucester and every body here is thankful that the decision of the government was as we here hoped it would be.

At this time it is fitting to mention in connection with the happy outcome of the matter, the splendid work of Congressman Gardner and Mr. Benjamin A. Smith of the firm of David B. Smith & Co. The former has always been ready to do and always has done his utmost, and that is considerable, for Gloucester and her interests and has proved himself a tireless worker. Mr. Smith is too well known to need any fulsome praise. He is one of the best posted fish dealers and vessel owners in this country, possessed of marked ability and having made a special study of the herring fishery and conditions affecting this country and Newfoundland and the Treaty Coast, was in every way qualified to represent Gloucester and the Board of Trade at the conference. In the hands of these two men, the interests of the vessel owners and fish dealers of all New England was in safe, conservative hands, and the splendid results attained show that they certainly worked hard.

## After Herring at Clark's Harbor.

The L. Pickert Fish Co. of East Boston have sent sch. Edward Trevo here to buy fresh herring. She is now lying at Wrayton's Island. Capt. Peterson is looking up chances in the vicinity, with good prospects of getting a load, if prices suit. He is offering \$1.25 a barrel from the net.—Clark's Harbor, N. S., Coast Guard.

## No Bulldozing.

The American fishermen had some doughty champions, and consequently they will not be deprived of treaty rights which they have enjoyed for 90 years, because Newfoundland hoped to bulldoze the United States into passing the Hay-Bond treaty.—Lawrence Telegram.

## Government Interpretation of Treaty of 1818 Received.

## MESSAGE SENT LAST NIGHT TO SYLVESTER CUNNINGHAM.

## Telegram Is Very Explicit and Was Received in This City with Great Favor.

## Good Work of Congressman Gardner and Benjamin A. Smith Greatly Appreciated.

"Sylvester Cunningham, President of the Gloucester Board of Trade, Gloucester:

"Vessels of American registry have the right to fish at any point, bay, harbor or inlet of the treaty coast of Newfoundland with or without entering at Newfoundland custom houses, for any kind of fish, in any method they think best, provided owner and master and mate are Americans, irrespective of nationality of crews or locality where crews are shipped, except Newfoundland crews shipped in Newfoundland territorial waters within the three-mile limit. If Newfoundland has local law, which I do not think is the case, forbidding her citizens to ship in foreign ports or on the high seas for the purpose of fishing in her own waters, your rights may not be so clear, as far as Newfoundlanders are concerned. This telegram is sent after consultation with Gardner and with his approval.

BENJAMIN A. SMITH,  
Committee of Board of Trade."

Secretary Root stands by Gloucester. In other words the state department of the United States interprets the treaty of 1818 in a manner that shows that the department has had in the past and has at the present time very strong views in the matter of what rights the first section of this famous document gives to American fishing vessels on the treaty coast of Newfoundland.

Yesterday was a day of considerable anxiety in this city. It was known that some of our vessels were fishing at Bay of Islands and that news of a seizure was not unlikely. Besides this, it was known that Congressman Gardner and Benjamin A. Smith were having another conference at Washington with Secretary Root, going over the corroborative evidence received from Americans at Bay of Islands in regard to what the attitude of the Newfoundland authorities had been since they arrived there. It was felt that the result of this conference meant much to Gloucester and the outcome of the day's doings in both places was awaited therefore with unusual interest.

There was a great deal of quiet rejoicing here last evening among the vessel owners

when it became known that good news had been received from Washington. It appeared that the conference with Secretary Root was held in the afternoon and at its close Benjamin A. Smith sent the telegram given above.

After the conference, both Congressman Gardner and Mr. Smith were asked if the telegram was sent on the advice or suggestion of Secretary Root, with his knowledge or tacitly with his approval. Both declined to answer or discuss the matter, beyond saying that the telegram spoke for itself.

So well posted a man as A. Maurice Low, the Boston Globe's Washington correspondent, does not hesitate to assert that it is a fact that the telegram was sent with the full knowledge of the secretary of state, and in consequence of the opinion given by him. The despatch, if this be the case, may be considered as semi-official, and indeed it is so considered here. The vessel owners and fish dealers see in this telegram the stand of the United States government in the matter.



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They realize that the decision is in keeping with the position of this country on the matter ever since the treaty was made, and they also realize that it is in direct conflict to the Bait Act of Sir Robert Bond and also the speech of Mr. Bond last April, when he placed upon the treaty a construction that even Newfoundland had never before heard of.

On the strength of this telegram, there is no question but what a large fleet will soon fit for salt herring trips to the Bay of Islands to take herring under the treaty of 1818, and in accordance with the decision of the government as indicated clearly in the telegram from Mr. Smith. What the attitude of Newfoundland may be is not at present considered. The vessel owners here now know what they have been trying to find out for quite a while, and that is the attitude of our government in the matter. Now they have it and they are prepared to act under it with reference to what Newfoundland may do.

They know now, in a semi-official way at least, just what the United States government considers are their rights there and the government practically tells them what they can do. They are prepared to live up to this interpretation and the vessels can now sail for cargoes feeling that as long as they keep within these provisions, that they are safe. What Newfoundland may do, how Bond may take this, is not given very serious thought here today. The Gloucester fishing interest has found out just what the U. S. Government thinks in the matter and that is good enough for it.

One of the facts which undoubtedly helped along in the last conference was a telegram of an official nature from Bay of Islands. Among the other messages which were sent to Bay of Islands after the first conference was one to the United States Fish Commission Grampus, which has been there for some time. The telegram asked for information as to the situation, and the reply was prompt and to the effect that vessels under American register had been refused the right to fish on the treaty coast.

Thus the fact has now been established by official testimony that American vessels had been denied rights that the American government maintains are theirs by virtue of the treaty.

The information was undoubtedly furnished the state department by Mr. A. B. Alexander, one of the department chiefs of the Bureau of Fisheries, who has been on the Grampus since last summer on the special work for the government. Mr. Alexander is a very conservative man and painstaking official, and whatever he sent to the department was undoubtedly exact and correct.

As the matter now stands our vessels will go to Bay of Islands for cargoes of salt herring.

The attitude of Premier Bond and the provisions of his famous Bait Act are too well known here to need repetition at this time. It is sufficient to say that they are in direct conflict with the United States government's interpretation of the treaty. The question now is, how far will Bond go? What will the Newfoundland authorities do? These questions, it seems ought soon to be answered.

American vessels are at Bay of Islands and it is supposed that some of them were fishing yesterday. Certain it is they had orders from home to do so. At any rate, as soon as the telegram as printed above is heard of by the American vessels at Bay of Islands, they will certainly put their nets in the water, and then we shall know where Bond stands, what course of action he proposes to pursue and how far he intends to go.

Sch. Edna Wallace Hopper sailed yesterday, and schs. Dauntless and Gossip and Atalanta expect to go today. Fully a dozen vessels will begin to fit and before next week is over a large number will have sailed for Bay of Islands.

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## DAILY TIMES FISH BUREAU.

### To-day's Arrivals and Receipts.

Sch. Colonial, Banks, 175,000 lbs. salt cod.  
Sch. Kena A. Percy, Maine Coast, 120,000 lbs. fresh fish.  
Sch. Mary G. Powers, via Boston, 75,000 lbs. fresh fish.  
Sch. Conqueror, via Boston, 60,000 lbs. fresh fish.  
Sch. Illinois, via Boston, 25,000 lbs. fresh fish.  
Sch. Seacomet, via Boston, 50,000 lbs. fresh fish.  
Sch. Mary Cabral, via Boston, 20,000 lbs. fresh fish.  
Sch. Mary Edith, via Boston, 25,000 lbs. fresh fish.  
Sch. Fanny E. Prescott, via Boston, 50,000 lbs. fresh fish.  
Sch. F. W. Homaus, pollocking.  
Sch. Lafayette, pollocking.  
Sch. Mary E. Stone, pollocking.  
Sloop Defender, pollocking.  
Sloop Sachem, pollocking.  
Sch. Mary E. Silverie, via Boston.  
Sch. Oliver F. Kilham, via Boston.  
Sch. M. H. Perkins, shore, pollocking.  
Sch. Almeida, shore, pollocking.  
Sch. Appomattox, shore, pollocking.  
Sch. Mattakeset, shore, pollocking.  
Sch. Rita Viator, pollocking.  
Sch. Sheffield, pollocking.  
Sch. James S. Steele, shore.

### Today's Fish Market.

These prices are based on the last known sales.

Salt handline Georges codfish, \$5.12 1-2 per cwt. for large, \$4 for medium.

Salt trawl Georges codfish, \$5 for large, \$4.00 for medium.

Salt trawl bank codfish, \$4.50 for large, \$4 for medium, \$3.00 for snappers.

Salt Rips codfish, \$5 for large, \$4 for medium.

Salt hake, \$1.75.

Salt pollock, \$1.50.

Salt haddock, \$1.75.

Salt cusk, \$2.50.

Fresh large codfish, \$2.50, medium do., \$1.75.

Fresh halibut, 12 cts. per lb. for white and 8 cts. for gray.

Fresh haddock, \$1.20.

Fresh hake, \$1.20.

Fresh cusk, \$1.75.

Fresh pollock, 90 cents.

Large salt mackerel, \$30 per bbl.

Salt small mackerel, \$14 per bbl.

Flitched halibut, 6 cts. per lb.

Fresh bait herring, \$2.50 to \$3.00 per bbl.

### Boston.

Sch. Genesta, 10,700 haddock, 8000 cod, 15,000 hake.

Sch. Ida M. Silva, 8000 haddock, 7000 cod, 15,000 hake, 16,000 cusk.

Sch. Eva Ayina, 11,000 pollock.

Sch. Evelyn L. Smith, 5000 haddock, 3000 cod, 2000 hake.

Sch. Alice M. Guthrie, 6000 haddock, 3000 cod, 15,000 hake, 5000 cusk, 2000 pollock.

Sch. George E. Lane, Jr., 22,000 cod.

Sch. Dorothy, 28,000 cod, 2000 pollock.

Sch. Ignatius Euos, 3,000 haddock, 500 cod.

Sch. Two Sisters, 400 haddock, 300 cod, 1000 pollock.

Sch. Laura Enos, 500 haddock, 6000 pollock.

Sch. Illinois, 28,000 haddock, 12,000 cod, 10,000 hake, 4000 cusk, 1000 pollock.

Haddock, \$4; large cod, \$4; market cod, \$2 to \$2.50; hake, 90 cts. to \$1.50; pollock, \$2.

### Mackerel Notes.

A few mackerel have been lately caught in herring nets in the West Bay (Barrington), N. S. Not often are there many stray fish from schools moving past Cape Sable in the fall migration.

### Fishing Fleet Movements.

Capt. James Goodwin of sch. Agnes reports speaking sch. A. E. Whyland on Quero Bank.

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### SENT A BIG TURTLE.

#### Mr. J. Thomas King Remembers Friends at Home.

Mr. J. Thomas King of the Hotel Savoy and Mr. John Ryan, who are taking a trip across the state, down the Hudson and to New York are evidently having a most enjoyable vacation tour. At every city in which they stop they have remembered their friends at home with souvenirs of their trip, but the climax came when they reached New York, when from them at that point, this morning, Mr. Bernard Pendleton, the clerk at the Savoy, received a big, 45-pound turtle and in consequence their friends will soon be testing a first class turtle soup.

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### CANNED DOGFISH.

#### Senator Kimball Brings a Sample to Times Office.

#### Secured by Fish Commissioners on Nova Scotia Trip.

Senator Moody Kimball, who will probably be the next county commissioner, was here on a flying visit yesterday afternoon and as usual, called at the TIMES office and left, as a souvenir of his visit, a regular novelty, in the shape of canned goods—to be exact, canned dogfish.

This he presented to the marine man with the instruction that it was edible and was to be eaten the same as canned salmon or a can of sardines, without cooking. The can was about the size of a can of devilled ham and is put up with no label, but laquered.

The dainty(?) morsel, the senator explained, he secured yesterday, at the state house at Boston, during a call on the members of the Massachusetts Fish and Game Commission. Messrs. Field and Delano of the commission have just returned from a tour of investigation to Nova Scotia and Newfoundland, their especial points of study being the dog fish reduction plants on the Nova Scotia coast and the whale factories of Newfoundland.

The senator had a long and very interesting chat with them on the dogfish matter and found out they had looked into the matter of these plants and while not yet ready to make their report, he gained the impression that they were pleased with the workings of the plan now in operation there. All the plants they saw were being pushed to the limit and the amount of dogfish they were taking in and reducing to fertilizer, etc., was something enormous.

The senator, later in the afternoon, went over to Western avenue to put in some time at the site of the new bridge at the Cut and also to inspect the temporary structure now completed. He left the office with the injunction for the staff to try the canned dogfish and let him know how they liked it.

#### Prince Edward Island Wants Dogfish Reduction Plant.

Prince Edward Island wants a dogfish reduction plant. A big meeting was held at Murray Harbor and it was decided to petition the Marine and Fisheries Department for a dogfish reduction plant to be established at some central fishing station in Kings County. After considerable discussion the resolution was passed embodying the facts that the fishing industry along those shores is being gradually depleted, owing to the alarming increase of dogfish.